

STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 98-825

April 21, 1999

CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY  
Request For Approval Of Affiliated Interest  
Transaction For Support Agreements

ORDER  
CLOSING DOCKET

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WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT, and DIAMOND Commissioners

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On October 22, 1998, Central Maine Power Natural Gas L.L.C. (CMP Gas) and Central Maine Power Company (CMP) jointly filed an application requesting approval of certain support service agreements between CMP and CMP Gas; New York State Electric & Gas Corporation and CMP Gas; CMP Group, Inc. and CMP Gas; and Union Water Power Co. and CMP Gas.

In Docket No. 98-077, the Commission delegated authority to the General Counsel to approve a revised support services agreement between CMP and CMP Gas, as the version contained in CMP's filing was inconsistent with Chapter 820 and incomplete. The delegation occurred under the assumption that the filing would be routine in nature. Upon review of the filing, the General Counsel had questions about some of the services that will be provided by CMP to CMP Gas. These include billing support, meter installation and reading, call centers, and customer development and key account services. The agreements between NYSEG and CMP Gas, CMP Group and CMP Gas and Union Water and CMP Gas were not part of the Docket No. 98-077 delegation to the General Counsel. Therefore, they require Commission approval.

On February 12, 1999, the General Counsel requested that CMP provide further information about the services, how they will be provided, how their costs will be allocated, and how their provision by CMP will be consistent with Chapter 820. As of April 14, 1999, CMP had not provided this additional information. 35-A M.R.S.A. § 707 allows the Commission up to 240 days to act on requests to approve contracts between affiliated interests. Given that the deadline has passed, this docket will be closed, without prejudice to CMP and CMP Gas's refiling their requests for approval with the additional information requested.

Dated at Augusta, Maine this 21st day of April 1999.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

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Raymond Robichaud  
Assistant Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR:     Welch  
    Nugent  
    Diamond Absent

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320 (1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73 et seq.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320 (5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.